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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 27 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 22 August 1997. On that day, a C-135 Russian military [illegible] at 0940 hours entered the Nicosia flight information region from a north-easterly direction, then violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over Agrotis Andreas Cape, and exited at 1048 hours in a south-easterly direction.

As stated in my previous letters, such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the airspace of the Republic are in violation of international air traffic rules and seriously endanger civil aviation flights over Cyprus. At the same time, they are in contravention of the provisions of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus which state that such overflights increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

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I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Cyprus to the
United Nations